GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2990
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2002
REFINERIES AT BINA AND BHATINDA
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plans to abandon the proposed refineries at Bina and Bhatinda in the public sector;

(b) if so, whether there is excess capacity in the refinery sector in the country;

(c) if so, whether delay in investments in the proposed Bina and Bhatinda refineries have been necessitated;

(d) if so, the additional capacity which is likely to be added by the Bina and Bhatinda refineries; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to review these options?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) While the crude oil refining capacity in the country as on 1.1.2002 was 114.67 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA), the estimated demand of petroleum products for the year 2001-2002 is 99.437 MMTPA.

(c) to (e) Implementation of Bharat Oman Refineries Limited (BORL)`s 6 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) refinery at Bina (Madhya Pradesh) has been delayed due to non-receipt of certain environmental clearances. The project is expected to be completed within 48 months from the date of commencement of project execution.

Subsequent to the withdrawal of M/s Exxon (the prospective joint venture partner) from Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)`s 9 MMTPA Punjab Refinery Project at Bathinda (Punjab) in February, 1999, Government permitted HPCL in October, 2000 to execute the project through a subsidiary of HPCL. The project is under implementation and is expected to be completed by the year 2005.